organisations—I am referring not only to the State Congress but also to those who are opposed to the State Congress, who might also wish to stage demonstrations—will refrain from taking advantage of the present economic situation to stir up the afflicted people into unrest. Such an action would not only be unfair but would neutralise the ameliorative efforts that are now being made to ease the situation.

The Demand was put to vote and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XX—AGRICULTURE.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyár (*Director of Agriculture and Registrar of Co-operative Societies*): Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs, 1,57,741 under demand XX—Agriculture.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, Co-operation and Agriculture may be discussed together.

The motion was put and carried.

President: Mr. Narayana Aiyar, you may move Demand XXII also.

DEMAND XXII—CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 92,093 under Demand XXII—Co-operative Department.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe: യുദ്ധാനന്തരം ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾ കിട്ടാതെ വരുമോ എന്ന ആളുകൾ വല്ലാതെ സംശയിച്ചു തുടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾക്ക് പറ്റിയ കൃഷി ധാരാളം നടത്താനാണ് കൂടുതൽ ശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടത്. ഇവിടെ നെൽകൃഷിചെയ്വാൻ ഒരാളിനു ഫാംസെൻറു സ്ഥലമെ ഉള്ളു. പുരയിടമാണെങ്കിൽ ഒരു ഫാംസെൻറുണ്ടു. ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾക്കു വേണ്ടതായ കൃഷി ധാരാളം ചെയ്യാത്തപക്ഷം അരി വെളിയിൽ നിന്നു കിട്ടാതെ വരുമ്പോൾ ഇവിടെയുള്ള ആളുകൾക്കു വലിയ വിഷമത നേരിടും. കുന്നത്തുനാട്ടു മുതുവായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ലിഫ്റ്റ് ഇറിഗേഷൻ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയും മറ്റും നെൽകൃഷി വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കാമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അതു ഉടൻ പ്രയോഗത്തിൽവന്നു് ആവശ്യം മുഴുവൻ നിറവേറുമെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു് റിസർവിലുള്ള വെറ്റ്ലാൻറ് ഭൂമികൾ കൃഷിക്കായി പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണം. റിസർവിനു വെളിയിലും ഇതുപോലെ പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഭൂമികളുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അവയെ ചെറിയ ചെറിയ ബ്ലാക്കുകളായി തിരിച്ചു് പലർക്കായി പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ബ്രിട്ടീഷിൻഡ്യയിൽ കൃഷിചെയ്വാനുപയോഗമുള്ള ആകെ സ്ഥലങ്ങളുടെ മൂന്നിൽ രണ്ടുഭാഗം ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങളുടെ കൃഷികൾക്കായി വിനിയോഗിക്കണമെന്നുഈയ്യിടെ നിർബന്ധിക്കുന്നതായിഅറിയുന്നു. ഇവി

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[Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe.]

ടെയും യുദ്ധാവസാനംവരെ നെൽകൃഷി മാത്രമേ ചെയ്യാവൂ എന്നു പ്രത്യേകം വ്യവസ്ഥചെയ്യുവേണം ഭൂമികരം പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ. ഈക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾക്കു പറഞ്ഞ വേറെ കൃഷിയും ചെയ്യാം. ദേവികുളംതാലൂക്കിൽ പലഭാഗവും ഉരുളക്കിഴങ്ങും ഗോതമ്പും കൃഷിചെയ്യുൻ പറഞ്ഞതാണ്. എന്നാൽ അവിടെ കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ നിന്നും പരീക്ഷണാർത്ഥമായിപോലും എന്തെങ്കിലും നടപടികളും നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നു സംശയമാണ്. ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞ രണ്ടു സാധനങ്ങളും അവിടെ കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്നുമുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ അവിടെ റോഡുകളൊ മറ്റു സൗകര്യങ്ങളോ ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് അവരുടെ കൃഷി അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുന്നില്ല എന്നേയുള്ളൂ. ഇപ്പോൾ കൃഷിസംബന്ധമായ ഡിമാൻസ്ട്രേഷൻ പലയിടത്തും നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടല്ലോ. എന്നാൽ ഈ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ അതൊന്നും നടക്കുന്നില്ല. മാതൃകാപരമായ പരീക്ഷണങ്ങളും പ്രകടനങ്ങളുംനടത്തി ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കാണിച്ചുകൊടുത്താൽ ഉരുളക്കിഴങ്ങുകൃഷിയും ഗോതമ്പുകൃഷിയും ധാരാളമായി വിളയിച്ചെടുക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതാണ്. കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ നിന്ന് വേണ്ടപോലെ ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം.

ഇവിടത്തെ കന്നുകാലികളുടെ സ്ഥിതി വളരെ ശോചനീയമായിരിക്കുന്നു. നെൽകൃഷിവർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചു വരുമ്പോൾ നാട്ടിൽ കന്നുകാലികൾ ഇല്ലാതെവന്നാൽ വളരെ വിഷമിക്കും. വടക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള കന്നുകാലികളും മിക്കതും വളരെ ക്ഷീണിച്ചവരുന്നു. തീറ്റിയുടെ കുറവുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഇങ്ങനെ സംഭവിക്കുന്നതു. മേച്ചിൽ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾക്കായി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഭൂമികരം ഒഴിച്ചിടുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും പഴയകാലത്തേതുപോലെ മഴലഭിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു മേച്ചിൽ സ്ഥലങ്ങളും മിക്കവാറും വേനൽക്കാലത്തു ഉണങ്ങിക്കിടക്കുകയാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ചില പ്രത്യേകസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഗിനിഗ്രാസ്സ് വളർത്തി ചില പ്രത്യേക റേറ്റിൽ വിതരണംചെയ്വാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം. തീറ്റി കിട്ടാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു കന്നുകാലികളുടെ എണ്ണംതന്നെ വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞുപോയിട്ടുണ്ട്. വെറ്റിനറി ഡാക്ടർമാരെക്കൊണ്ടു പറയത്തക്ക പ്രയോജനമൊന്നുമില്ല. വടക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഒന്നരണ്ടുഡാക്ടർമാർ ഉണ്ട്. അവർ കൃഷിക്കാർക്കു ഉപകാരപ്രദമായ രീതിയിൽ ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നില്ല. അവർ ഉള്ളകാര്യം തന്നെ അധികം ജനങ്ങൾക്കും അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: വെറ്റിനറി ആശുപത്രിയിൽ ചെന്നാൽ ഈ ഡാക്ടർമാർ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുകയില്ലേ?

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Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe : ആഗ്രപത്രികം വളരെ ദൂരെയാണ് സ്ഥാപിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. അനവധി കന്നകാലികം ഉള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഡാക്ടർമാർ ക്കടെക്കടെ പോകുന്നത നല്ലതാണ്. പെരുമ്പാവൂരിൽ ഒരു വെറ്റനറി ആഗ്രപത്രിയുണ്ട്. അവിടെ ചികിത്സിച്ച കന്നകാലിക ളുടെ എണ്ണം വളരെ കുറവാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് വെറ്റനറിഡാക്ടർമാർ ഉൾപ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ സഞ്ചരിച്ച കന്നകാലികളേയും മറും ചികിത്സി ക്കാൻ പ്രത്യേകം ചട്ടംകെട്ടേണ്ടതാണ്.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Sir, I support the demand. From the list of the demands placed before me I find a demand with the heading Agriculture. But when we look into the Budget I find that the heading is Agriculture and Fisheries. Even though the Fisheries has been separated from Agriculture long ago.....

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, it is just to show the previous year's account only.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : Sir, the officers of the Agricultural Department are trying their utmost to introduce new types of cultivation and are doing a lot of propaganda for the intensive mode of cultivation. The Director of Agriculture is doing house to house propaganda in Central and North Travancore advising people to cultivate fruit trees and other crops which are grown in South Travancore. And this propaganda has had some effect. Sir, there has been propaganda from the Chair itself that the people should go in for clove cultivation in Travancore. I have noticed that the department have been introducing clove cultivation in Travancore in many places. And it is no fault of the department that the people are not taking to their advice. I know that the Director himself has been going to various places taking the plants with him and advising people to cultivate them.

President : It is much more profitable than cardamom. Now as Zanzibar is out of the question we have got a monopoly for it in Travancore.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : I have myself grown clove plants and also some fruit trees. Where fruit trees are not being grown, people have begun to cultivate mango trees and sappodillas. Whatever propaganda is conducted, unless and until there are facilities for cultivation such as provision of water where it is not available and provision for the out-let of water where it is excessive, nothing tangible can be achieved in this direction. Sir, these matters of local needs have been discussed at the meetings of the Board of Agriculture and the Economic Development Board and certain definite proposals were submitted before Government.

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[Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar.]

Take for example the punja cultivation. We have to begin the cultivation early in Thulam usually when there is the North-East Monsoon. Now the newly reclaimed Willingdon Island and the Cochin Harbour prevents the free passage of water from the Vembanad Lake to the sea. The passage now is very narrow. Now water has to flow into the sea through a very narrow channel. At this time of cultivation, there is excess of water in the Periyar Lake and the sluice there is opened and the Periyar River becomes flooded. This water is also taken to the Vembanad Lake, so that, there is a rush of water from North and South and we are experiencing very high floods at that time when we are in the course of pumping out water for cultivation. The course suggested by the Board of Agriculture and the Economic Development Board is the construction of a spill-way at Porakad and Thottapally which will free us from the flood menace. Over and above this the construction of this spill-way will enable the cultivation of all the kari lands at Porakad and Thottapally successfully. Another difficulty which seriously hampers punja cultivation is the unworkable nature of Section 23 of the Irrigation Act. Sir, we have been placing before Government representations after representations that for the effective working of Section 23 of the Act the people who own the padoms should be made to co-operate in the matter of having all their irrigational wants satisfied. The present Irrigation Act does not help us practically because the Tahsildars who have been entrusted with the work may not be available to cultivators at that part of the season. Further, there are difficulties also which arise from the fact that a single padom may lie within the jurisdiction of three or more taluks. If an irrigation petition has to be considered the cultivators have to go to three Tahsildars. It has been recommended that a special Irrigation Officer be appointed for dealing with this question. I invite the attention of Government on this important matter also. With these words I support the Demand.

Mrs. Abernam Gnanasikhamony (*Nominated*) : Sir, it is high time that our country is brought to a position of self-sufficiency regarding the cultivation of paddy. I congratulate the Government for taking adequate measures to increase the output of paddy throughout Travancore, not only in Nanjinad and Kuttanad. When these schemes in view are actually put into operation it will be another reason for the people of Travancore to realise the beneficent nature of the present administration and another monument for the future generation to read and see from the history of Travancore. Today when the merchants raise the price of paddy I hear the ordinary people say that they do so because the Dewan is

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not at Trivandrum, perhaps he is on tour, and when he returns these merchants will have to reduce the price to the normal scale. We shall wait at present and see what happens when the Dewan returns. So it is the talk of the people and this is really true. Sir, there is also much fluctuation in regard to the price of paddy. During the last war the price of paddy went up to Rs. 21 for a Nanjinad kotta. Our Dewan has now made the price of paddy graduated and steady. Now, Sir, we have to imagine how gratified our people will be when they realise and enjoy the benefits of the present day schemes of agricultural improvements. I endorse the suggestions made by Mr. Kuriyppe regarding the Veterinary Hospitals and doctors. These hospitals and doctors are there only in name. My submission is that they must be more energetic to cater to the peoples' wants in this direction.

Sir, now with regard to the growing of fruit trees. There are a lot of mango trees in the Agasteeswaram taluk both grafted and other varieties. But not one of them is bearing fruits properly. I have heard the Dewan-President mentioning in his speech that we should see to the growing of more mango trees. A statistics should be taken with regard to the bearing and unbearing mango trees in those parts. Sir, there is a fruit farm near the Cape and there is an Agricultural Inspector who is in charge of it. I am at a loss to understand why they are not able to give some help to the ordinary cultivators by way of suggestions to make these trees bear fruits. With these words I support the motion.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to the urgent need of extending the acreage under paddy cultivation so that we may raise as much paddy as we require for the country. Sir, there are several ways of increasing the output of paddy. Measures have already been taken to convert the single-crop-lands to double-crop-lands in Kunnathunad Taluk and for cultivating all the wet land in Kuttanad every year instead of cultivating them in alternate years. Sir, these efforts go a large way in raising the output of paddy. But other ways and means must also be tried. Instead of having small holdings for cultivation we must have consolidated holdings to cultivate paddy and other such important crops. Anyhow this matter also, I understand, is engaging the attention of Government. In the hilly parts, it was pointed out by some of the honourable members here, that certain tracts useful for the cultivation of paddy may be set apart for the purpose. Also it was pointed out by Mr. Anantasiva Aiyar that a spill-way at Thottapally should be constructed to prevent excess water from flooding the fields. If this can be done it will enable all the marshy plots of land near and around Thottapally to be cultivated.

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[Mr. K. M. Kesavan.]

Then, Sir, I want to point out one particular inconvenience caused to the paddy cultivators in rural areas. That is, in a large paddy field a good paddy growing field—a certain man may take into his head to raise a small piece of land in the centre of the field and he may plant it with trees in such a way that they may overhang the surrounding field, so much so that a considerable area of the field does not get enough sun-shine. Therefore compulsory provision must be made, not to convert garden lands into paddy lands or paddy lands into garden lands so as to create this serious problem I have pointed out. Then with regard to the cultivation of such new crops like soyabean and other crops whatever may be the energy and the ability of the Departmental Head, it is not possible for him to go from one place to another and thus tour all along the country and spend all his time for that purpose alone. It may be possible for the administrative head of the department to go and inspect important stations where such demonstrations are going on, and make speeches and thus give advice to the people at large. I may suggest that the old course may be followed, that of issuing pamphlets in large numbers and holding exhibitions in connection with important festivals in certain areas. This system was followed sometime back, but owing to want of funds and some other things, somehow, it is not pursued as it shoud be, at present.

Then, Sir, one or two words with regard to the co-operative movement. Sir, it has been the bane of this country that almost 99 per cent. of the co-operative societies that are found here, are co-operative credit societies and these societies have proved themelves to be a failure. The number of credit societies which was 1,766 in 1114 has fallen to 1,480 in 1115 and it is also a matter for regret to note that those societies that survive, are hopelessly encumbered. Unless, as I pointed out the other day, a committee consisting of officials and non-officials, is constituted and they are asked to enquire into the condition of these societies and submit a report, pointing out ways and means by which the co-operative movement can be rehabilitated, our co-operative system will soon fade away. So I invite the pointed attention of Government to this matter to take speedy measures for the rehabilitation and rejuvenation of this very useful system. Sir, if the co-operative movement can thrive in Denmark and other European countries and if it can thrive in Japan and even in Bihar, I do not see any reason why it should not thrive and take root in such a civilized and educated country like Travancore. This is a matter of great importance and I may once again request the attention of the House to take early steps for the rehabilitation of this movement.

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Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, I am glad to get the opportunity to discuss the importance of agriculture along with co-operation and I am also glad to find that the responsibility of the departments rests with the same person. My suggestion would be that the Irrigation Department may also be brought in so that there may be co-ordinate effort made. Sir, with regard to agriculture and with regard to co-operation, I have been maintaining all these years that in Travancore co-operation means only organisation of efficient agriculture. Much else can be done, but the most urgent thing and the most useful way in which the co-operative movement can be utilised is by devoting its possibilities for the organisation of agriculture. In agriculture, Sir, if there is to be a general improvement, according to me, the most insistent need is cheap credit and discriminating credit available to the agriculturists. However much we may condemn co-operative societies that are in existence and however much we may agree with the condemnation of various undesirable activities of the many co-operative societies, it cannot be denied that they are serving a useful purpose in making it possible for the common agriculturists who have a mind to use the amount that is available to him for the purpose of agriculture. It is another matter that oftentimes we may not get it and other people may knock it away. That is true, but without organising cheap credit for the ordinary type of agriculturists, I do not think it is possible to regenerate agriculture in Travancore. There was a system of agricultural loans distributed by the Land Revenue Department which failed. It was difficult for the ordinary ryot to go through the formalities and even though only a nominal interest was charged, the expenditure and time for getting the loan were so great that it was oftentimes much more hard than getting money at a high rate of interest and the agriculturist was not able to pay the amount after his commitments for the loan, if he utilised it for reproduc ive agricultural enterprises. Oftentimes, he utilised it for wholly unproductive purposes also. It is not possible for the ordinary agriculturists to get enough money as short-term loan from the Credit Bank. There was the Land Mortgage Bank. The activities of the Agricultural Loan Department are now combined with the Credit Bank so that there is now no effective agency for the agriculturists to get easy short-term credit. I grant, Sir, that, if you get cheap credit and that indiscriminately, that will tend to enhance the burden of indebtedness. But if model co-operative societies can be reared and they ought to be reared and we find no other method of developing this industry of agriculture—if they can be organised on a proper basis and if they can be made to work effectively, loans can be distributed through these societies and only for purposes approved by the societies. Of course, it presupposes that the society must be a

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[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

common society and a certain amount of honesty must exist. We will have to devise measures to see at least a number of model societies are brought into existence and the work of at least some villages as a model, is executed and shown as an example. Even though it will not be successful in every case, I am sure, in a vast majority of cases, it will be successful. I am at a loss to find any other means to improve agriculture as such. It will be difficult for the Director of Agriculture enthusiastic and able as he might be, to carry out his schemes and his ideas to the people, unless there is some net-work of organisation as the co-operative societies. So, however much we may condemn credit societies, we cannot afford to condemn the utility of easy credit for agricultural purposes. The only thing needed is that it must be utilised for agricultural purposes and there must be a body which will discriminate and say that money is given to the man for reproductive purposes and it must scrutinise that it is utilised for productive purposes. It must also see that the money is realised in easy instalments from the crops. Such things can be done with the active help of the head of the department, my friend Mr. Narayana Aiyar and he has got many years before him in the service and he can devote his life for the development of this very essential form of organisation. I hope he will succeed and I wish him God-speed.

Mr. A. Easwara Pillai: Sir, I oppose the Demand. Government seem to have devised the Departments of Agriculture and Co-operation, for the purpose of improving the financial condition of the majority of the people, *viz.* rural population. Sir, these departments really reflect the condition of the people at large. Starvation, stagnation and inertia are common to both. Sir, Government used to complain that the people of Travancore suffer, because they are very lazy and unambitious and that they do not rise equal to the occasion, even if opportunities are given to them. Sir, the case of the Agricultural Department may be taken as a fitting illustration. Even if the people exert and strive their utmost, when all the conditions are considered, I can assure the Government that the people who pursue this occupation cannot make any headway. Sir, paddy cultivation is the main occupation of the agriculturists in the land. If you take a particular paddy field, there will be several obstacles for making effective cultivation of paddy. There is no facility for irrigation. The facility for irrigation, formerly existing, was a head tank and now it has been registered in the name of a person for other purposes. Then there is the canal or channel for taking the water to the various paddy lands and the channel and the bunds have also been registered in the names of persons, who have no interest in paddy cultivation. So

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also in the case of adjacent dry lands. These adjacent dry lands have been cultivated and the paddy land is silted up during the rainy seasons on account of erosion. I ask, in all seriousness, under the circumstances, how could the cultivators improve the paddy cultivation, even if the Government wish to improve the production of paddy by intensive cultivation?

Sir, so also is the case with the Co-operative Department. My friend Mr. Kesavan has been telling this House that this department is not effective in its working because credit societies have been organised and they are not suited to the conditions of Travancore. Sir, I am at one with Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai in his opinion that without having cheap credit in the land the rural population cannot improve their financial condition. Sir the failure of these credit societies is not due to the fault of the people. It is mainly due to the fault of the department which organised these societies without sufficient propaganda and without making the people know what they are. Even now, after the department has been working for the last 28 or 30 years there are co-operators who think that these societies are chitty schemes started by the secretaries as foremen. This ignorance of the people is the reason for the failure of this movement. The department imposed upon the people this movement without making them know the full implications. I do believe and hold that the salvation of the majority of the people of Travancore depends entirely on co-operation and agriculture. But, Sir, the allotments made for these departments are meagre and insufficient. Year after year we see in the Budget the same amount repeatedly allotted for these departments. This shows the lukewarm interest shown by Government for the proper and effective conduct of these departments. On the other hand, even if the head of the department moves heaven and earth, he cannot make any alterations in the existing conditions. On the other hand his ineffective activities will only create misunderstanding among the people. In fact the people think that these departments do not justify their existence. That is the impression gaining strength among the people at large. My opinion is that larger amounts should be allotted for these departments and more freedom of action should be allowed to the heads of these departments.

Sir, finally I say that I do believe in the possibilities of these departments, if they are strengthened and co-ordinated and if sufficient supply of motive power is given, these departments will work as a panacea for all the economic distress of the people of Travancore.

Mr. T. K. Kittan: സർ, മത്സ്യവകുപ്പ് കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും വേർതിരിച്ചതു നന്നായില്ലെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായക്കാരനാണ് ഞാൻ. അതു വീണ്ടും കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലേക്കു ചേർക്കണമെ

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[Mr. T. K. Kittan.]

നന്നായിരിക്കും. കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ രാജ്യം മുഴുവനും സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കുന്ന പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ പോകുന്നതിനും മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കുന്ന തൊഴിലിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവർക്കു വേണ്ട ഗ്രണ്ടോഷങ്ങളും കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനും സാധിക്കുന്നതാണ്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇതു് സർവകലാശാലയോടു ചേർത്തിരിക്കയാണു്. അവരുടെ ഗ്രണ്ടോഷങ്ങളും ഒന്നും നാട്ടിൽ എല്ലാ സ്ഥലത്തും എത്തുകയില്ല. മത്സ്യത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള ഗവേഷണം അവർ നടത്തിക്കൊള്ളട്ടെ. ആ വകുപ്പിലെ ഭരണം മുഴുവനും കൃഷി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനുതന്നെ വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കണം.

മി. കയ്യൈപ്പ് ഉരുളക്കിഴങ്ങും ഗോതമ്പും ദേവികുളം ഡിവിഷനിൽ കൃഷിചെയ്യാമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു. അതു് ഒന്നു പരീക്ഷിച്ചുനോക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇവിടെ നെല്ലു കുറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് മറ്റു ഭക്ഷണപദാർത്ഥങ്ങളും നാം വേറെ അന്വേഷിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. കോട്ടയം ഡിവിഷനിലെ വടക്കേ അറ്റത്തുള്ള രണ്ടു മൂന്നു താലൂക്കുകളിൽ ലിഫ്ട് ഇറിഗേഷൻകൊണ്ടു് ൨,൦൦൦ ഏക്കർ നിലത്തിൽനിന്നും ൨ ലക്ഷം പറ നെല്ലു് വിളയിക്കാമെന്നൊക്കെ പറയുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതൊരു വലിയകാര്യം ആണു്. അതിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ശുദ്ധ പതിയണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, it has been a matter of great satisfaction to me that the criticisms levelled by the honourable members of this House on the working of the departments under me, namely, the Agricultural Department and the Co-operative Department, have not in the least been captious but on the other hand have been definitely constructive and helpful. During the course of the debate attention was riveted on two or three important topics and I shall deal with them at fairly good length.

Many of the honourable members suggested that steps should be taken by Government and the department for augmenting the production of paddy in the State. I may straightway say that this question has engaged the very earnest and anxious consideration of the Government and the department and a scheme for converting all the single crop lands into double crop lands in North Travancore gradually though not immediately, by using water from the Periyar river and the electrical energy from Pallivasal has already been put into operation. A special officer has been appointed and a committee to advice him has also been constituted. This committee has already met once or twice and work is in full swing; so that we expect in the taluks of Kunnatnad, Muvattupuzha and Parur that

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in the course of the next five or six years at least about 25,000 acres of single crop lands could be converted into double crop lands with the result that at least about 25 lakhs of paras of paddy more could be produced.

Likewise, the question of cultivating annually all lands which are now cultivated biennially in Kuttanad, is also engaging the very earnest and careful attention of Government. As the honourable member Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar said, this question has engaged the very careful consideration of a special committee presided over by no less a person than the learned Legal Remembrancer. The committee spent about three days in Kuttanad, examined vast areas of these lands, discussed the question in all its ramifications and have submitted certain definite recommendations. These recommendations have been fully discussed subsequently in the Economic Development Board and they are now under the consideration of Government. One of the recommendations has included definitely the appointment of a special officer referred to by Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar, especially in view of the fact that difficulties are experienced in the application of Section 23 of the Irrigation Act. The question has been considered in all its aspects, not only with regard to the introduction of improved agriculture, not only with regard to the draining of these lands by electricity but also with regard to the provision of cheap credit facilities for carrying on cultivation there. Thus the problem of producing as much paddy within the State as is possible has already engaged the attention of Government and the department. Mr. Kuriyppe during the course of the discussion suggested that for self sufficiency in our food requirements it is necessary to enter into our forests. I may straightway tell him that it is absolutely unnecessary to encroach upon our valuable forests. Without doing that, all the food crops that are required can be produced in the State itself only if it is realised that the food crop does not absolutely consist of paddy and paddy alone but that it includes crops like the pulses, ragi, and millets. All these crops can be produced within the State by a system of rotation. I would like to take this opportunity to inform honourable members that there seems at present to be a feeling that every available square inch of land should be utilised for the production of paddy. That is not the correct procedure at all, especially so, when we realise that Travancore is practically a continent in itself with a wide range of soil and climatic conditions. The fundamental thing to be born in mind in a system of scientific agriculture in the State is the utilisation of a particular piece of land for that crop which will enable the maximum return to be got out of it. Without entering our forests and without seriously interfering with our agricultural system, because agriculture on the one hand has to be counterbalanced by forestry on the other, it will be possible to produce the food crops necessary

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[Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar.]

for the State. Government have considered this question very carefully and are trying their best to introduce schemes which it is hoped in the next five to ten years will solve the problem. It is not also right to believe that all the paddy that we require could be produced within one year, as if by the wave of a magic wand. The problem has been realised and recognised and efforts are being made to solve it.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : വനപ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ നെൽകൃഷിക്കു ഉപയുക്തമായ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ കുടികിടക്കു പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കാതെ, ഇപ്പോഴത്തെപ്പോലുള്ള വൈഷമ്യസന്ധിയെ കടക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ കൊല്ലത്തിനു പാട്ടം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥരുടെ അഭിപ്രായം എന്താണ്?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: That is a matter, Sir, which has to be carefully considered—whether such disafforestation will not interfere with rainfall. But that is not necessary if we resort to intensive cultivation and to the cultivation of different crops by rotation. For instance, we can raise ragi as one crop and then it can be followed by tapioca. Such a system of cultivation will not deteriorate the land. Further, the quantity required for consumption as food will be less than in the case of paddy and tapioca alone. At the same time it will be balanced and wholesome food.

Sir, reference was made by my honourable friend Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar to the cultivation of cloves. Sir, there is a gentleman by name Mr. C. H. Simpson in charge of the Balackrock Estate, Nagercoil with whom the department has been in correspondence for the past two years. I visited his estate only recently. He has got an exceedingly good nursery of cloves and he has got plenty of seedlings for sale. He has also planted about five acres where the clove plantation is coming up exceedingly well. It is, as you said, Sir, a handsomely paying crop. The import of cloves every year into India comes to Rs. 40 or 50 lakhs. Travancore could very well become a clove garden. It will be economically advisable also because the net profit per acre is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 300 or Rs. 400.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : May I know whether the cloves will thrive well on the hills or on the low lands ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : Sir, it will thrive well on all kinds of soil where the rainfall is above 60 inches. It will grow in sandy soil. It will grow in the laterite belt. It will grow in the hilly tracts. So that, the climate of this country is especially suited to the rearing of cloves.

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Mr. A. Easwara Pillai: May I know whether the honourable member be pleased to issue a leaflet stating places in which cloves can be reared ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, a leaflet about this has been published about two months ago and I will be very glad to give a copy of it to the honourable member.

Then, Sir, the possibility of cultivating potatoes and wheat in the High Ranges was adverted to. A detailed enquiry has been conducted by the officers of my department with regard to the possibility of cultivating potato. As regards cultivation of wheat, I may say that the scope is very limited. Wheat can be purchased much cheaper from outside and in very large quantities from places like the Punjab, the Central Provinces and the United Provinces. But with regard to potato, it can be cultivated here and I may assure the honourable member that all the preliminary enquiries have been conducted, that a report has been prepared and that definite steps will be taken at the earliest possible opportunity.

Reference was made by the same honourable member to the unsatisfactory nature of the work of the Veterinary Inspectors in North Travancore. Not only is there a Veterinary Hospital in Perumbavur, but Government have also appointed two itinerant Inspectors who have nothing to do with hospital work but to tour round the villages. I am very glad to inform the honourable member on the testimony of the honourable members of the other House who come from that tract, that considerable good work is being done by those officers in saving the lives of several hundreds of cattle every year from the ravages of contagious diseases like Anthrax etc.

As regards the Co-operative Department I would like to say a few words. I am particularly thankful to the honourable member Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai for his valuable suggestions in regard to the working of the Co-operative Department. Ever since I took charge of the department, I have been bestowing my most anxious consideration as to how the department could be utilised as a lever to raise agricultural productions. I called together a conference of representatives of Taluk Banks, Banking Unions and the Central Bank, and we considered certain questions regarding the rehabilitation of the co-operative movement. Mr. K. M. Kesavan raised the question of constituting a committee to go into the entire subject of rehabilitating the present movement with a view to make it directly helpful to the public at large, particularly in the matter of agricultural production. That question is already engaging the attention of Government. A committee will be constituted without delay. It will be the endeavour of the committee to study the working of these societies, coalesce those societies which

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are not necessary and give the movement a non-credit turn with a view to intensify production, distribution and marketing. Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai was perfectly right when he said that the pre-requisite of agriculture was cheap credit. It is not in the province of Joint Stock Companies to give credit to agriculture which is a biological industry in the sense that the harvest is done quickly and the people have to get money quickly. All this will be considered when the scheme submitted by the committee is given effect to. I have nothing more to say Sir except to thank the honourable members for the valuable suggestions given by them.

Mr. M K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: May I know how many fruit plants have been sold?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: About 1,500.

The question that a sum of Rs. 1,57,741 and a sum of Rs. 92,093 be granted under Demand XX—Agriculture and Demand XXII—Co-operative Department respectively was put and carried. The grants were made.

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES.

Mr. C. Kumara Das (*Director of Industries*): Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 89,132 under Demand XXI—Industries including Rubber Factory.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: Sir, I oppose the Demand. I find from the Budget that the activities of the Industries Department are confined to certain educational institutions, the Sri Mulam Technical School, the S. M. R. V. Institute and the Government School of Commerce. So far as the Technical School and the Institute are concerned I am of the view that since we have a University which is dealing with such educational institutions it will be better that such institutions are guided by that University. Similarly, the Government School of Commerce. What remains is simply the subject of giving grants to certain weaving schools. I do not approve of the idea of giving any grant to these weaving schools. There are ever so many weaving institutes and weaving looms working in Travancore. As such there is no necessity to give any more grants for weaving institutes hereafter. Further, there is a textile institute under the Travancore University where any-body who wants to study the technique of weaving can learn it. I do not understand the necessity of grants being given for this purpose by the department. What remain are the Geological Section and the working of the Labour Acts. The Geological Section can very well be brought under the Archaeological Department. They also excavate something (*Laughter*), dig in various

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